

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the through consideration given the present application. Claims 3, 10, 20 and 21 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectively requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Amendment

Applicants submit that entry of the present Amendment is appropriate since only non - allowable claims are being canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 3 and 10 as being allowable. Applicants submit that claims 20 and 21 which depend from claim 10 are also allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1,2, 5, 6, 9 and 17 – 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as Takeuchi et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,389,571) in view of Nishizawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,338,389). Claims 7, 8 and 11-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Takeuchi et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,389,571) in view of Nishizawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,338,389). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Since these claims have been canceled, these rejections have been removed. In regards to claims 20 and 21, these claims depend from claim 10 and are considered to be allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that all the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early in the favorable action is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse Reg. No. 27,295 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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